



This Half Term in Kestrels

LAND OF THE DRAGONS!

This term our topic is *Land of the Dragons!* We will be using the exciting text ‘*How to Train Your Dragon*’ by Cressida Cowell as a starting point for much of our learning across the curriculum. Our topic has a geography focus that will take us on a journey around the UK as we ask questions such as: *Where in the UK might dragons be found? How are their habitats formed? and Who are the most famous (or infamous) dragons in literature?* Through this novel we will be linking our geography learning with reading, writing, art and more, making for a truly cross-curricular adventure.



WHAT WILL BE LEARNED:

Maths	The children will consolidate and extend their understanding of written methods of calculation in all four operations and their understanding of place value . We will begin the year looking at Roman Numerals (consolidation from learning in Year 4), Reading and Writing numbers to 1,000,000, Rounding numbers to the nearest 1000, Common factors and square and prime numbers.
English	This half term we will be using our class novel, <i>How to Train Your Dragon</i> , to inspire all of our English learning. We will be learning to write in a variety of styles, including a narrative, a diary entry, descriptive writing and a persuasive letter. Each piece of writing will link closely to the adventures and characters we meet in the story, helping the children to develop their creativity as well as their technical skills. Alongside this, we will also have weekly spelling and grammar lessons, giving children the chance to practise and apply these skills in their own writing.
Science	We will be learning about properties and changes of materials.
Geography History (taught next half term)/	We will learn about mountains – where they are located and how they are created – as well as comparing different regions of the UK. We will also be developing our mapping and fieldwork skills, including using maps, atlases and compasses.
D.T/Art	This half term in Art, we will be revisiting our learning on the colour wheel and how this is made up. We will move on to explore variations of colour mixing, complimentary and analogous colours, warm and cool colours and use these skills to create close ups of dragon eyes and illustrations. In D.T, we will be building simple mechanisms to make a dragon trap and making Viking style jewellery.
PE	Yoga and Swimming
French	Oracy and Vocabulary to build up French dialect.
Computing	This half term our computing unit is ‘idraw’. We will explore the programme SKETCHio to draw and create vector images.
PSHE/No outsiders RSE	PSHE– Yasmine and Tom (Health). In R.E we will be studying Christianity and exploring the question ‘Why is the gospel such good news?’.
Music	Music specific vocabulary and theory.
Visitors/ Visits	Coding week robotics workshop

IMPORTANT REMINDERS

- Please remember to label all your child’s clothing and tie with their name.
- Ensure your child’s PK kit is in school and is weather appropriate for lessons outside.
- Please do not send your child into school wearing jewellery. Small stud earrings can be worn but must be removed for PE.
- Don’t forget to send your child into school everyday with a water bottle, their homework diaries, reading book and a coat.

USEFUL WEBSITES

- <https://satscompanion.com/> (login details are in the back of your Kestrels homework diary)
- <https://spellingframe.co.uk/> (login details are in the back of your Kestrels homework diary)
- <https://trockstars.com/> (login details are in the back of your Kestrels homework diary)

DATES TO REMEMBER

- PE will be on a Tuesday, Thursday and Friday.
- Our Keys to Success meeting is on Thursday 11th September (9.15-9.45 or 2.45-3.15)
- Friday 17th October– Individual Photo Day
- Look and Share– Wednesday 22nd October 3.30-4pm and Thursday 23rd October 8.30-9am
- Friday 24th October– Interim reports home
- Friday 24th October– Last day of this half term. Children return to school Tuesday 4th November.

CONTACT US AT:

- kestrels@nayland.suffolk.sch.uk (this email is checked out of school hours)
- For urgent enquiries please email/ phone the school office, admin@nayland.suffolk.sch.uk